

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] This is a national phase application of International Application PCT/GB03/005204, filed November 27, 2003, and claims priority to United Kingdom Patent Application No. 02258722.4, filed December 18, 2002. The present invention concerns the manufacture of fire resistant expanded polystyrene foams and composite panels constructed from such materials. These foams have a significantly reduced reaction to fire and retain a degree of integrity when exposed to fire regimes. These foams may be produced entirely within the manufacturing sequences and within the same equipment as are conventionally and commercially used for the production of expanded polystyrene (EPS).